



TJAG Sends

A Monthly Message from The Judge Advocate General



A New Era in JAG Corps History

"To be a successful soldier, you must know history"
- General George S. Patton

Military history is vitally important; it teaches Soldiers about their profession and inspires them with examples of Soldiers who have succeeded in the face of adversity and danger. During the JAG Corps' 230 years of existence, we have compiled our Regimental history in an *ad hoc* manner. These sporadic, and often unofficial, efforts have focused on Judge Advocates, all but ignoring the valuable contributions of our paralegals, legal administrators, and civilian team members. Preserving our Corps' unique history is a critical task that deserves the expertise and attention of a trained professional.

I am pleased to announce that the JAG Corps now has a dedicated, full-time Historian. Mr. Fred L. Borch assumed duties this month as the first-ever Regimental Historian & Archivist. He is a distinguished author and historian who retired after 25 years of service in the JAG Corps. Fred wrote the book, "Judge Advocates in Combat: Army Lawyers in Military Operations from Vietnam to Haiti" (2001), and several other historical publications. He is now our Corps' permanent focal point for all activities related to our Regimental history. I have asked him to establish an on-going program to capture the history of the Regiment as it unfolds, and to create world-class archives for cataloging the JAG Corps' distinguished history.

I request that you actively support our efforts to preserve items of historical significance. This includes collecting and safeguarding photographs, documents, and other items of interest. Of particular importance are photos of – and personal narratives from – deployed lawyers, legal administrators, and paralegals. We must also capture structural and other long-term JAG Corps institutional changes at commands throughout the Army, and our civilian employees and retirees are often our best resources in this challenging task. JAG Corps members of all ranks, and from all components, should search their offices and personal files for historical items. When you discover materials, contact Mr. Borch at fred.borch@hqda.army.mil or (434) 971-3249. He will work closely with CLAMO to separate photos and other documents from AARs and to properly archive all items.

These are historic times. I want to ensure that the JAG Corps' impressive accomplishments of today become part of our enduring legacy of tomorrow.

SCOTT C. BLACK
Major General, USA
The Judge Advocate General